



## **U.S. Embassy Ljubljana, Slovenia**

### **Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Demonstrations on February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>**

The U.S. Embassy would like to inform U.S. citizens of demonstrations that are scheduled to take place in Ljubljana on Thursday and Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

On Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, a demonstration labeled “Protestival,” by the musicians and artists who are organizing the gathering, will begin at 17:00 in Kongresni Trg. On Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Assembly for the Republic (Zbor za republiko), a right-leaning think-tank linked to Prime Minister Janša’s Slovene Democratic Party (SDS), will hold a rally starting at 11:00 in Kongresni Trg. A few hours later, the “All Slovenian Uprising,” whose supporters have previously staged rallies around the country calling for Slovenia’s “political elites” to step down, will stage its own gathering in Kongresni Trg starting at 15:00.

While organizers of both groups have called for peaceful demonstrations, the potential for conflict still exists based on the groups’ differences and the close timing and location of the gatherings. During recent protests throughout the country, firecrackers and other objects were thrown at the police, who responded by using tear gas to disperse agitators. Several protesters were arrested and some minor injuries occurred.

We encourage U.S. citizens to take caution and exercise appropriate security measures. Be cautious if you must enter areas where you may be a target of crime or violence. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States or a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444 for callers from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts](#) as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#). Follow the Bureau of Consular Affairs on [Facebook](#) as well.

We strongly encourage U.S. citizens living or traveling in Slovenia to [register with the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to obtain updated information on travel and security within Slovenia. By registering, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly at the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana.

Regularly monitor the [State Department's website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information](#) for Slovenia. For additional information, refer to “[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)” on the State Department's website.

The [U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana](#) is located at Presernova 31. The American Citizens Services Unit telephone number is (386) 1-200-5595. For after-hours emergencies, the number is (386) 1-200-5500.